

LESSON NOTES

Newbie S1 #19

What's Lurking in the Shadows of Japan?

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KANJI

1. 先生: 小林さんの部屋には何がありますか。
2. 小林: えーっと、机と、椅子と、ベッドと、パソコンと・・・それにテレビもあります。
3. 先生: それだけですか。じゃあ、小林さんの部屋には何がいますか。
4. 小林: えーっと、何もいません。あっそうそう、時々ゴキブリがいます。

KANA

1. せんせい: こばやしさんのへやにはなにがありますか。
2. こばやし: えーっと、つくえと、いすと、ベッドと、パソコンと・・・それにテレビもあります。
3. せんせい: それだけですか。じゃあ、こばやしさんのへやにはなにがいますか。
4. こばやし: えーっと、なにもいません。あっそうそう、ときどきゴキブリがいます。

ROMANIZATION

1. SENSEI: Kobayashi-san no heya ni wa nani ga arimasu ka.B
2. KOBAYASHI: Ētto, tsukue to, isu to, beddo to, pasokon to... sore ni terebi mo arimasu.

CONT'D OVER

3. SENSEI: Sore dake desu ka. Jā, Kobayashi-san no heya ni wa nani ga imasu ka.
4. KOBAYASHI: Ētto, nanimo imasen. Attu sō sō, tokidoki gokiburi ga imasu.

ENGLISH

1. TEACHER: What do you have in your room?
2. KOBAYASHI: Well, I have a desk, a chair, a bed and a personal computer, and also a television.
3. TEACHER: That's all? Then, what stays in your room?
4. KOBAYASHI: Um, nothing. Oh yeah, sometimes there are cockroaches.

VOCABULARY

| Kanji | Kana | Romaji | English |
|-------|------|----------|-------------------|
| 部屋 | へや | heya | room |
| 机 | つくえ | tsukue | desk |
| 椅子 | いす | isu | chair |
| パソコン | パソコン | pasokon | personal computer |
| ゴキブリ | ゴキブリ | gokiburi | cockroach |
| 時々 | ときどき | tokidoki | sometimes |

SAMPLE SENTENCES

隣の部屋がうるさくて困る。
Tonari no heya ga urusakute komaru.

I'm really annoyed by the noisy room next door.

幅が90センチの机を購入したいんですけど。

Haba ga 90-senchi no tsukue o kōnyū shitai n desu kedo.

I'm looking for a desk with a width of 90 centimeters.

椅子に座ってください。
Isu ni suwatte kudasai.

Please have a seat.

GRAMMAR

Today's grammar points are (i) *aru* and (ii) *iru* once again. *Aru* is a special class 1 verb that means "to exist" or "to have." *Aru* is only used to indicate the existence of inanimate objects. That is, it is not used to indicate the existence of living things other than plants. On the other hand, *iru* is a class 2 verb used to indicate the existence of animate (usually living) objects. This verb, however, is also used to indicate the existence of some animate non-living things, such as ghosts, buses, robots, etc.

Please note that the negative form of *aru* is not *aranai*, but *nai*.

Formation:

Aru

| | | | | |
|------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| (i) | Inanimate object | <i>wa</i> | Place | <i>ni aru</i> |
| (ii) | Place | <i>(ni)wa</i> | Inanimate object | <i>ga aru</i> |

Iru

| | | | | |
|------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| (i) | Animate object | <i>wa</i> | Place | <i>ni iru</i> |
| (ii) | Place | <i>(ni)wa</i> | Animate object | <i>ga iru</i> |

* When a location is presented as a topic and what exists is under focus, a sentence

pattern (ii) can be used. The sentence pattern (i) can be used when something that exists is presented as a topic and a location is under focus.

Examples:

あのマンガは私の部屋にある。

Ano manga wa watashi no heya ni aru.
That comic is in my room.

私の学校には大きなプールがある。

Watashi no gakkō ni wa ōkina pūru ga aru.
There is a large pool at my school.

私の部屋にはクーラーがない。

Watashi no heya ni wa kūrā ga nai.
I don't have an air conditioner in my room.

先生は校庭にいる。

Sensei wa kōtei ni iru.
The teacher is in the school yard.

あの公園には野良犬がいる。

Ano kōen ni wa norainu ga iru.
There are stray dogs in the park.

As stated above, *iru* can be used for some non-living machines that are capable of moving from place to place. These examples are idiomatic and quite high level. You may hear native Japanese speakers use them, but if this point is confusing, you would not be incorrect using *aru*. We just wanted to include them for a little fun. Note the differences where *iru* and *aru* are used below.

バスがいるよ。

Basu ga iru yo.
There's the bus.
(We can see it moving.)

駅前にタクシーがいる。

Ekimae ni takushī ga iru.
In front of the station there are taxis.
(The taxis are waiting for passengers.)

たくさん飛行機がいる。(空港で)

Takusan hikōki ga iru. (kūkō de)
There are many airplanes. (sc. in the airport)
(The airplanes are waiting to be boarded.)

エレベーターがいる。のろうよ！

Erebētā ga iru. Norō yo!

Look, there's an elevator. Shall we take it?

(The elevator is waiting, and the door just opened.)

あのマンションにはエレベーターがある。

Ano manshon ni wa erebētā ga aru.

That apartment has an elevator.

(We can't see it, but know it exists inside.)

あの駅にはエスカレーターがある。

Ano eki ni wa esukarētā ga aru.

That station has an escalator.

(Even though escalators move, they don't move to various places.)